



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

10:31 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

In Support

Senate Bill No. 2930, SD1, Relating to the State Risk Management Revolving Fund.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

The Office of the Governor is in strong support of S.B. No. 2930, SD1, Relating to the State Risk Management Revolving Fund.

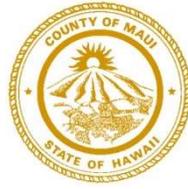
This measure increases the expenditure ceiling and appropriates funds from the State Risk Management Revolving Fund, established pursuant to section 41D-4, HRS, to ensure the appropriate and effective distribution of property and liability insurance proceeds to state programs related to the 2023 Lahaina wildfire.

S.B. No. 2930, SD1, is critical to advancing the rebuilding of Lahaina and supporting the communities impacted by the 2023 Maui wildfires as they continue recovery and reconstruction efforts.

For these reasons, the Office respectfully requests that this Committee support this bill. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH K. NISHITA
Managing Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Richard T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor
Josiah K. Nishita, Managing Director

DATE: March 2, 2026

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF SB2930 SD1, RELATING TO THE STATE RISK MANAGEMENT REVOLVING FUND.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure which would increase the expenditure ceiling and appropriate funds out of the State Risk Management Revolving Fund established by section 41D-4, HRS, to enable the Department of Accounting and General Services, State Risk Management and Insurance Administration to transfer and distribute property and liability insurance proceeds related to the 2023 Maui wildfires to applicable accounts. Requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to submit to the Legislature a master coordinated project spreadsheet developed in collaboration with certain state agencies, the County of Maui, and other relevant entities. Effective 7/1/2525.

We support this measure for the following reasons and respectfully request consideration of the following:

1. The ability to efficiently deploy insurance proceeds to rebuild state facilities is critical to long-term recovery. Increasing the fund's expenditure ceiling ensures that available insurance proceeds can be used as intended — to repair, restore, and rebuild impacted infrastructure without unnecessary delay.
2. Importantly, we urge that insurance proceeds made available under this measure prioritize the rebuilding of critical educational facilities in Lahaina, including King Kamehameha III Elementary School. Reestablishing permanent school facilities is fundamental to community recovery. Schools anchor neighborhoods, restore stability for families, and signal long-term commitment to rebuilding Lahaina as a thriving residential community.
3. Education is more than a public service — it is a grounding force in times of disruption and trauma. Schools provide routine, stability, and a sense of normalcy for children and families

navigating uncertainty. They are places where students reconnect with peers, receive emotional support, and rebuild a sense of safety and belonging. For parents, the restoration of a neighborhood school represents reassurance that their community is returning and that their children's future remains rooted in Lahaina.

The County stands ready to continue coordinating with state partners to support thoughtful, transparent, and efficient use of available insurance proceeds for Lahaina's recovery.

Mahalo for your consideration.



HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST

650 Iwilei Road, Suite 285 · Honolulu, HI 96817 · Phone: 808-845-3238 · Fax: 808-845-8300

March 4, 2026

To: **The State Senate Committee on Ways & Means**

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **Testimony in Strong Support for SB2930 SD1, Relating to the State Risk Management Revolving Fund; Wildfires; Report; Appropriation (\$)**

For Hearing on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 10:31 am in Conference Room 211

Aloha Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and WAM Committee Members,

The **Hawaii Laborers & Employers Cooperation and Education Trust** (Hawaii LECET) is a labor-plus-management partnership established in 1993 between the 5,000 statewide members of the Hawaii Laborers Union and over 250 construction companies from the *General Contractors Association* and the *Building Industry Association*. The Laborers International is the largest construction trade union in North America, and Hawaii LECET is part of a network of 38 labor-management LECET Funds across the country.

As Maui continues the long journey of healing, SB2930 provides the necessary framework for transparency and accountability in managing the insurance proceeds for Lahaina's recovery.

The people of Maui deserve the guarantees provided by SB2930:

- **Financial Accountability:** SB2930 clarifies exactly how insurance proceeds are handled, ensuring they are used specifically and transparently for rebuilding and recovery efforts.
- **Restoring Public Trust:** By creating a structured process for these funds, the state can restore the public's confidence in how recovery resources are managed.
- **Accelerated Rebuilding:** Strategic management of these funds will directly speed up the timeline for restoring vital infrastructure.

For the families of Lahaina, SB2930 ensures that insurance funds are directed toward those areas that define a community:

- **Schools and Public Spaces:** Restoring the places where our children learn and play.
- **Infrastructure:** Rebuilding roads and essential ocean access.
- **Hope and Stability:** Providing the community with a clear path for the future of our Keiki.

SB2930 will ensure funds are protected and used appropriately, and is a commitment to the people of Maui and the history of Lahaina.

Mahalo,

**Hawaii Laborers & Employers
Cooperation and Education Trust**



March 1, 2026

Honorable, Donovan M. Dela Cruz Senate Committee on Ways and Means, Chair
Honorable, Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Senate Committee on Committee on Ways and Means, Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2930 SD1- RELATING TO THE STATE RISK MANAGEMENT REVOLVING FUND

Chair Dela Cruz,

My name is Ana Tuiasosopo, and I am a Trustee and District Representative for the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 3, representing heavy equipment operators, mechanics, surveyors, and other skilled tradespeople in Hawai'i's construction industry. I submit our SUPPORT to SB2930 SD1.

This bill ensures transparency, accountability, and the proper use of Lahaina insurance monies for recovery following the 2023 Maui wildfires. The State has received property and liability insurance proceeds intended specifically to repair, rebuild, and restore state facilities destroyed or damaged in Lahaina. These funds must be used efficiently, strategically, and transparently.

We must not forget that Lahaina was once the capital of the Hawaiian Kingdom and holds deep cultural, historic, and community ties for our State. The rebuilding of Lahaina is not simply a construction effort — it is the restoration of a place that carries profound meaning for Hawai'i and its people.

Why This Bill Matters

- Guarantees that insurance funds are used directly for rebuilding and recovery efforts.
- Clarifies how insurance proceeds are handled within the State Risk Management Revolving Fund.
- Increases the expenditure ceiling to allow timely deployment of funds already received.
- Requires a master coordinated project spreadsheet to align agencies and prevent duplication.
- Restores public trust through structured accountability and transparency.

This measure wisely conditions increased expenditure authority on the development of a master coordinated project spreadsheet. That requirement ensures collaboration between the Department of Accounting and General Services, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Education, the Department of Transportation, the County of Maui, and other relevant entities.

Without coordination, projects risk moving forward in silos, causing delays, inefficiencies, and unnecessary strain on traditional capital improvement project funding. A centralized planning framework allows the State to map shared infrastructure needs, align project timelines, and fully leverage insurance proceeds before relying on additional public funds.



Community Impact

- Lahaina families deserve confidence in how these funds are managed.
- Strategic use of insurance proceeds can accelerate rebuilding timelines.
- Restoring schools, roads, ocean access, and public spaces is not just about construction — it is about hope, stability, and the future of our keiki.

Our community is still healing. Rebuilding state facilities is foundational to restoring economic activity, educational stability, cultural access, and daily life in West Maui.

SB2930 strengthens financial stewardship during this critical recovery phase. It ensures that insurance proceeds are fully utilized, responsibly managed, and deployed in a coordinated manner to rebuild Lahaina thoughtfully and efficiently.

I respectfully urge the Committee to pass this measure.

Sincerely,

Ana Tuiaosopo
District Representative, Trustee



**International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
District Council 50**

March 3, 2026

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
And Committee Members
Senate Ways and Means Committee
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813.

RE: SB2930, SD1 - Relating To The State Risk Management Revolving Fund

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **support** of SB2930, SD1.

The International Union of Painters and Allied trades, District Council 50, is an organization that consists of five (5) local unions: the Painters, Local 1971; the Glaziers Architectural and Glass Metal Workers, Local 1889; the Carpet Linoleum and Soft Tile, Local 1926; the Drywall, Tapers Finishers, Local 1944; and the Pearl Harbor Metal Trades Specialty Workers, Local 1941 – in all, approximately two thousand (2000) members statewide.

S.B. 2930, SD2 is necessary to ensure that the State can properly receive, account for, and deploy the property and liability insurance proceeds associated with losses suffered in the devastating 2023 Maui wildfires in a transparent and timely manner, and thereby enable the rebuilding of Lahaina as soon as possible.

We therefore urge you to pass SB2930, SD1. Thank you again for this opportunity to testify in **support** of this measure.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Masatsugu
Director of Government Affairs
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
District Council 50

2240 Young Street
Honolulu, HI 96826

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808.955.9091

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GLAZIERS,
ARCHITECTURAL
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GLASSWORKERS
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CARPET, LINOLEUM
AND SOFT TILE
808.942.3988

DRYWALL, TAPERS,
FINISHERS
808.946.6621

SB-2930-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 2:02:45 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/4/2026 10:31:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Howard Kihune Jr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of SB 2930 to restore, repair, rebuild impacted state facilities and infrastructure due to the 2023 Maui wildfires. This is critical to the people of Lahaina & West Maui and the rebuilding of its community.. Please pass the bill through.

SB-2930-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 4:57:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/4/2026 10:31:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Councilmember Tamara Paltin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and members,

My name is Tamara Paltin, I live in West Maui, work as the residency area councilmember and I support raising the expenditure ceiling for funds to help with the rebuild of State assets in Lahaina town. Hawaii has never before experienced a mega fire of this magnitude and I hope that we never experience one again, but for a faster restoration we need the expenditure ceiling raised. I also support a coordinated master plan for the rebuild of State of Hawaii Lahaina projects. The main State projects in Lahaina that need to be either rebuilt, re-installed or repaired include King Kamehameha III elementary school, Lahaina Public Library, Piilani Homes, David Malo circle, traffic signals and signs, Lahaina small boat harbor and the DLNR and DOBOR offices.

Front St Apartments' rebuild is currently moving forward and Kaiaulu o Kupuohi apartments has already been rebuilt and is housing residents. The non-profit developer, Ikaika 'ohana, for Kaiaulu o Kupuohi did a great job on the rebuild with 89 families being able to move back in within 2 years, they utilized insurance proceeds and received gap funding from the County, if possible I would support them rebuilding any and all state housing that was lost and offering LIHTC funds.

The Lahaina library was a beloved resource for the community and it is hard to prioritize between such important community assets, but I believe emphasis must be placed on the King Kamehameha III elementary school rebuild as the State was given a good deal for the first five years of use at the temporary site and the children are in currently in temporary buildings, so if we must choose, I think that we need to prioritize housing and the elementary school.

Mahalo for your service and the opportunity to testify,

Tamara Paltin - Councilmember West Maui



www.AlohaILHawaii.org

Mar 2, 2026

MISSION

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) dedicated to providing independent living programs and services for persons with disabilities in Hawaii.

We work together with the community and consumers to improve the quality of life through individual choices and access to services.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Roxanne U. Bolden

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Member

Scott Suzuki

Sheila Castaneda

Jennifer Hartsock

The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Thirty-Third Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SUBJECT: SB 2930 SD1, Relating to Mental Health

Chair and Members of the Committee:

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) respectfully **offers comments on SB2930 SD1.**

SB2930 SD1 increases the expenditure ceiling and appropriates funds from the State Risk Management Revolving Fund to enable the timely use of insurance proceeds related to the 2023 Maui wildfires for the rebuilding and restoration of state facilities in Lahaina. The measure also requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to submit to the Legislature a master coordinated project spreadsheet developed in collaboration with relevant state agencies, the County of Maui, and other appropriate entities.

AILH provided support services during the Maui wildfire recovery and received Maui Strong funds to assist impacted individuals with disabilities. During that period, consumers reported accessibility barriers affecting access to facilities, services, and public infrastructure. As the State undertakes coordinated rebuilding efforts, it is critical that accessibility be embedded at the planning stage rather than addressed retroactively.

AILH respectfully offers the following recommendations:

- 1. Integrate Accessibility Metrics into the Master Coordinated Project Spreadsheet**

The master coordinated project spreadsheet should include an accessibility review component for each rebuilding project. In addition to ADA compliance,



www.AlohaILHawaii.org

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Vice Chair

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Treasurer

Jonathan Yap

Member

Scott Suzuki

Sheila Castaneda

Jennifer Hartssock

this review should address universal design integration, accessible routes of travel, parking and entry access, restroom accessibility, communication accessibility, and emergency egress considerations. Embedding accessibility criteria within the central planning document will support coordinated implementation and reduce costly retrofits.

2. Include Disability Stakeholder Consultation in the Coordinated Planning Process

While SB2930 SD1 requires collaboration among state agencies and the County of Maui, inclusion of disability stakeholders or disability-led organizations in the rebuilding coordination process would strengthen outcomes. Direct input from individuals with lived experience can help ensure that facilities rebuilt with insurance proceeds reflect practical accessibility needs.

3. Rebuild to Current and Forward-Looking Accessibility Standards

Rebuilding efforts should meet or exceed current accessibility best practices rather than replicate pre-disaster conditions. Disaster recovery presents an opportunity to strengthen long-term resilience and community integration for individuals with disabilities.

Consistent with statewide goals to ensure equitable access to community resources during and after disasters, integrating accessibility at the infrastructure planning stage will help safeguard inclusive rebuilding in Lahaina.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Aloha,

Roxanne Bolden

Executive Director

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Councilmembers
K. Kauano'e Batangan
Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

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www.MauiCounty.us

March 2, 2026

TO: Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Nohelani U'u-Hodgins *Nohelani U'u-Hodgins*
Councilmember

DATE: Wednesday, March 4, 2026
10:31 a.m., Conference Room 211

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2930, SD1, RELATING TO THE
STATE RISK MANAGEMENT REVOLVING FUND**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to increase the expenditure ceiling and appropriate funds out of the State Risk Management Revolving Fund established by section 41D-4, HRS, to enable the Department of Accounting and General Services, State Risk Management and Insurance Administration to transfer and distribute property and liability insurance proceeds related to the 2023 Maui wildfires to applicable accounts. Requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to submit to the Legislature a master coordinated project spreadsheet developed in collaboration with certain state agencies, the County of Maui, and other relevant entities.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

This measure ensures that available insurance funds can be deployed in a timely manner by increasing the expenditure ceiling of the State Risk Management Fund. Allowing these funds to be used efficiently helps accelerate recovery efforts without placing additional strain on taxpayers or diverting resources from other critical state priorities.

Requiring the Department of Accounting and General Services to come up with a master coordinated project spreadsheet will help to reduce duplication, align infrastructure

March 2, 2026

Page 2

investments, and maximize limited public and private resources. By promoting transparency and interagency collaboration, the bill supports a more strategic and fiscally responsible rebuilding process.

This measure is a practical and thoughtful step toward ensuring Lahaina's recovery is efficient, coordinated, and fully supported by the resources already available to the State.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your support of SB 2930, SD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 'I 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

MARCH 4, 2026, 10:31 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

S.B. 2930, S.D. 1

RELATING TO THE STATE RISK MANAGEMENT REVOLVING FUND

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 2930, S.D. 1.

S.B. 2930, S.D. 1 proposes to increase the expenditure ceiling and appropriates funds out of the State Risk Management Revolving Fund established by section 41D-4, HRS, to enable the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), State Risk Management and Insurance Administration to transfer and distribute property and liability insurance proceeds related to the 2023 Maui wildfires to applicable accounts. In addition, this measure requires DAGS to submit a master coordinated project spreadsheet to the Legislature in collaboration with certain state agencies, the County of Maui, and other relevant entities.

DAGS supports S.B. 2930 with respect to increasing the spending ceiling for the

Risk Management Revolving Fund so the insurance proceeds can be distributed to the appropriate State programs affected by the Lahaina wildfire event. In the S.D. 1 version, the appropriation was changed to an unspecified amount and the effective date was changed to July 1, 2525. The amount required is \$211,000,000, which is a ceiling increase that is critical to ensure timely funding for recovery efforts. To date, the liability insurance collection is complete and there are no additional insurance proceeds anticipated from that source. The Risk Management Office is still working with insurance companies to collect the balance of the \$200,000,000 property policy limit.

As it relates to the requirement that DAGS submit a “master coordinated project spreadsheet,” we have no objections as we have already completed the draft plan by working collaboratively with other agencies, the County of Maui, and private agencies related to our involvement in supporting state facilities damaged/ destroyed by the tragic events of August 2023. Over the past year, our team has been collaborating and consulting with public and private entities on rebuilding King Kamehameha III Elementary School. We look forward to continued collaboration with the legislature, state and county leadership, along with various agencies to complete this project and others for the Lahaina community.

In conclusion, the ceiling increase is necessary so funding can be distributed to the applicable State programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

SB-2930-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:37:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/4/2026 10:31:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Foster Ampong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB2930.

This bill ensures transparency, accountability, and proper use of the Lahaina insurance monies for recovery.

We must not forget that Lahaina was once our capital which held strong ties for many multi-cultural families still struggling to recover from the 2023 fires that destroyed much of Lahaina.

The SB2930 when codified by the Hawaii State Legislature and Honorable, Governor Josh Green will guarantee funds are used for the rebuilding and recovery, clarify how insurance proceeds are handled, and restore public trust with structured accountability.

1. Lahaina families deserve confidence in the management of these funds.
2. Strategic use can speed up rebuilding.
3. Restoring our schools, roads, ocean access, and public spaces is not just about construction - it's about hope, stability, and the future of our community.

In closing - SB2930 strengthens financial stewardship in this vital phase of recovery.

I urge the committee to pass this measure.

Mahalo nui loa ha'aha'a for the chance to submit testimony

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Councilmembers
K. Kauano'e Batangan
Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

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March 2, 2026

TO: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 4, 2026; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2930, SD1, RELATING TO THE STATE RISK MANAGEMENT REVOLVING FUND**

I support this measure to increase the expenditure ceiling for the State Risk Management Revolving Fund and require a collaboratively developed master coordinated project spreadsheet for Lahaina's redevelopment.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. An increase in the expenditure ceiling is necessary for the timely repair and rebuilding of public facilities and infrastructure damaged or destroyed by the 2023 Maui wildfires, including King Kamehameha III Elementary School in Lahaina.
2. Developing a master coordinated project spreadsheet will allow all involved agencies and entities to more efficiently participate in meaningful and coordinated rebuilding of Lahaina.
3. This measure will foster ongoing State-County collaboration on recovery.

Thank you for your consideration.

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SB-2930-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 9:38:03 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/4/2026 10:31:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Uilani Kapu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and WAM Commissioners

I am in support of bill SB 2930

My Name is U'ilani Kapu and as a resident of Lahaina I see the extrime need of our State facilities for residents. There are so many of our residents relying on these facilities to be rebuilt or fixed so they may go back home. These State and County facilities hold so many of our Lahaina Residents and i do not see why there should be any questions to this bill.

Please pass it so we may start the rebuild of these very needed facilities and get our Lahaina residents back home.

Mahalo Nui

U'ilani Kapu

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Councilmembers
K. Kauano'e Batangan
Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

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www.MauiCounty.us

March 3, 2026

TO: Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Thomas Cook
Councilmember

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas Cook".

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2930 SD 1 – RELATING TO THE STATE RISK MANAGEMENT REVOLVING FUND**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support of SB 2930 SD 1**, relating to the State Risk Management Revolving Fund and the timely deployment of insurance proceeds for Lahaina's recovery.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am testifying in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council and as Chair of its Water & Infrastructure Committee.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Timely use of insurance proceeds for Lahaina's rebuilding.

Because of the 2023 Maui wildfires, the State has received property and liability insurance proceeds for state facilities damaged or destroyed in Lahaina. These funds were specifically intended to repair, rebuild, and restore impacted public infrastructure. Increasing the expenditure ceiling of the State Risk Management Revolving Fund will allow these dollars to be accessed and distributed without unnecessary delay. The longer these funds remain constrained, the greater the risk of slowed recovery and lost momentum in rebuilding essential public facilities.

2. Support for the rebuilding of Kamehameha III Elementary School.

This measure is especially important to help fund the rebuilding of Kamehameha III Elementary School, a historic and foundational institution in the West Maui community. The school serves generations of Lahaina families and remains a symbol of stability and continuity for our keiki. Ensuring that insurance proceeds are leveraged for its reconstruction is both fiscally responsible and critical to community recovery.

3. Coordinated and strategic infrastructure planning.

SB 2930 appropriately requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to develop a master coordinated project spreadsheet in collaboration with key state agencies, including the Department of Education, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Transportation, and consultation with the County of Maui.

This coordinated approach is prudent. Rebuilding Lahaina involves shared infrastructure systems, overlapping jurisdictions, and limited public and private resources. A master coordinated project spreadsheet will help prevent duplication of effort, reduce siloed planning, and ensure that insurance proceeds are maximized before other capital improvement funding is impacted.

4. Fiscal responsibility and protection of statewide capital resources.

By utilizing available insurance proceeds through the State Risk Management Revolving Fund, the State can avoid unnecessary strain on traditional capital improvement project appropriations. This protects funding capacity for other critical statewide needs while ensuring that disaster-related losses are addressed with the resources already designated for that purpose.

For the foregoing reasons, I respectfully urge the Senate Committee on Ways and Means to pass SB 2930 SD 1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. If you have questions relating to this testimony, please contact my office by e-mail at Thomas.Cook@mauicounty.us or by phone at (808) 270-7108.



Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of **Lāhainā Strong**, we submit this testimony in **strong support of SB 2930, S.D. 1.**

This measure is important because it helps remove barriers that can delay the rebuilding of Lāhainā. It allows insurance funds received by the State as a result of losses from the 2023 Maui wildfires to be used for the repair, rebuilding, and restoration of impacted state facilities and infrastructure in Lāhainā. At a time when our community is still navigating the long road to recovery, those resources should be put to work in a way that is timely, responsible, and truly beneficial to the people of Lāhainā.

We also support the bill's requirement for a coordinated project plan across relevant agencies and the County of Maui. Coordination is essential. Lāhainā cannot afford fragmented rebuilding efforts, duplicated work, or agencies moving in different directions while our community continues to wait. Rebuilding must be organized, transparent, and aligned.

At the same time, we support this measure with the strong expectation that implementation will prioritize **direct community benefit**. As state facilities and infrastructure are evaluated for repair or rebuilding, we urge the Legislature and responsible agencies to ensure that **Lāhainā community voices remain central in determining what is prioritized**. The success of this bill should not be measured only by whether funds are spent, but by whether those investments serve the real needs of the people and families of Lāhainā.

For our community, this is not abstract. Every delay has real consequences. Public infrastructure and state facilities are part of the daily functioning of our town, and their restoration is part of what will help our community move forward. If these funds are available, they should be used with urgency, accountability, and a clear commitment to rebuilding in a way that reflects the needs of the community most affected.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify..

